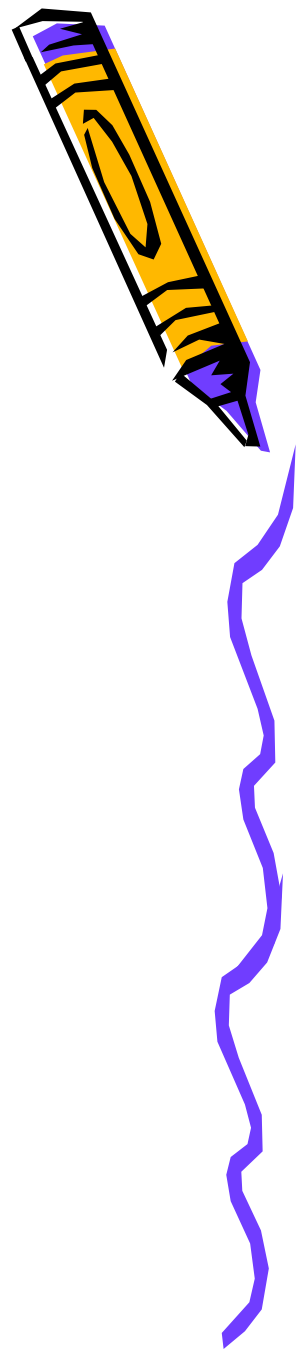




Methods and Approaches for Teaching ESOL: A Historical Overview

Dr. Kristen Pennycuff Trent





Methods and Approaches

- Grammar/Translation Method
 - Aka The Classical Method
- Direct Method
- Audio-Lingual Method
- Suggestopedia
- The Silent Way
- Total Physical Response

The Natural Approach
The Communicative Approach

Grammar/Translation Method

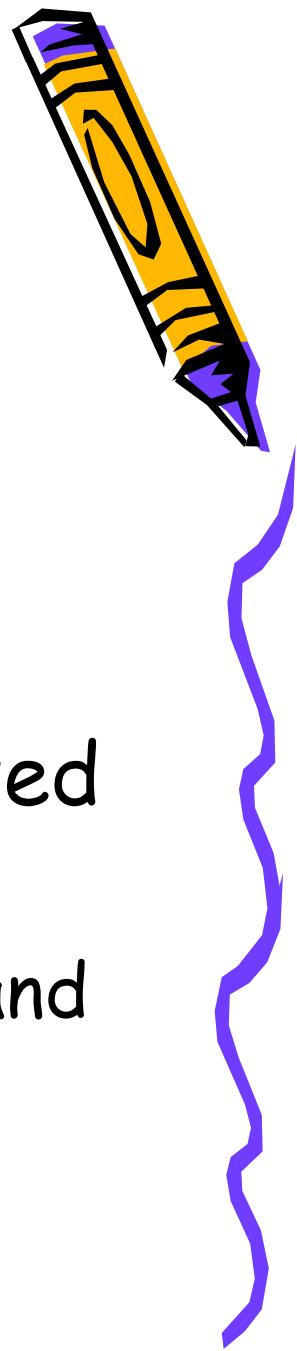


- Based on the belief that different kinds of knowledge were located in separate sections of the brain
 - Learning another language as mental exercise
 - Latin and Greek to appreciate the classics in their original language
- Study of grammatical aspects of language and the use of translation as a means of ascertaining comprehension
 - Reading and translating passages, conjugation of verbs, explanation and memorization of grammatical rules

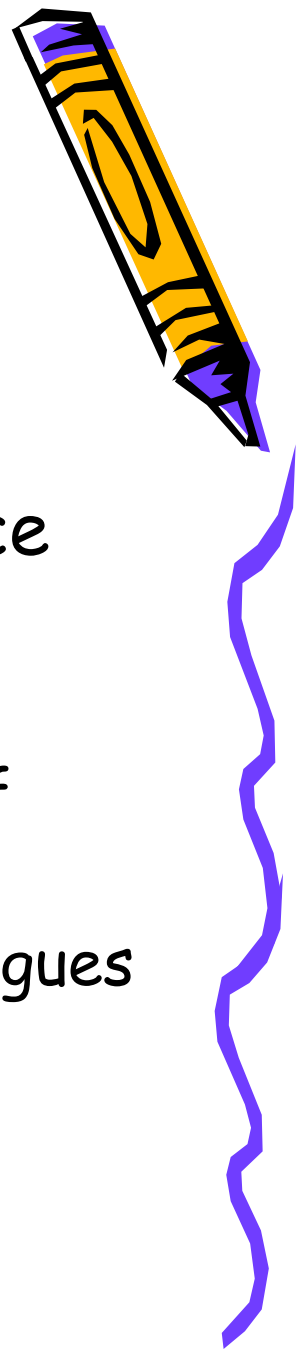


The Direct Method

- Emphasis is on the direct associations the student makes between objects and concepts and the corresponding words in the target language, which is emphasized at all times.
 - Primary goal is for student to think and speak the language.
 - Instruction revolves around specific topics.



Audio-Lingual Method (ALM)

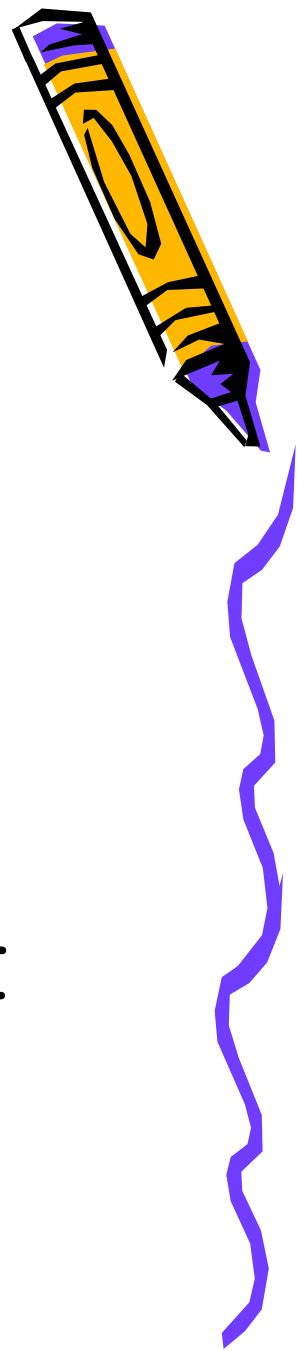


- Emphasis was on the memorization of a series of dialogues and the rote practice of language structures.
 - The basic premises were that language is speech, not writing, and language is a set of habits.
 - It was believed that much practice of dialogues would develop oral language proficiency.
 - Structure drills "I am going to the..."
 - Use of the native language was avoided.



Suggestopedia

- Based on the belief that how students feel about learning will make a difference in the learning process
 - Affective domain
 - "I think I can, I think I can, I know I can"
 - Use drama, songs, and games for enjoyable practice



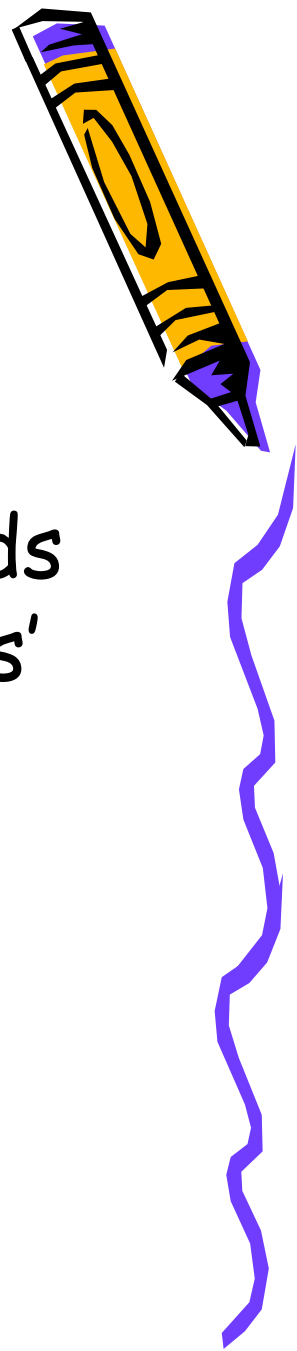
The Silent Way



- Students are responsible for their own learning and teachers are to remain silent for much of the time.
 - Beginners are initially taught the sounds of the new language from color-coded sound charts.
 - Next, teachers focus on language structures, sometimes using colored, plastic rods to visually represent parts of words or sentences.
 - As students begin to understand more of the language, they are taught stories using the rods as props.
 - At all stages of the method, the teacher models as little as possible, and students try to repeat after careful listening with help from each other. The teacher leads them toward correct responses by nods or negative head shakes



Total Physical Response (TPR)



- Students respond nonverbally (physically) to a series of commands as the teacher ascertains students' comprehension of the command.
 - Excellent for students in the preproduction/silent stage



Total Physical Response (TPR) Gouin series



- Use of logical sequences of action for common tasks
 - T models and Ss pantomime
 - T describes actions and Ss demonstrate



Benefits of TPR and Gouin Series

1. It links language to action and visuals, leading to improved comprehension.

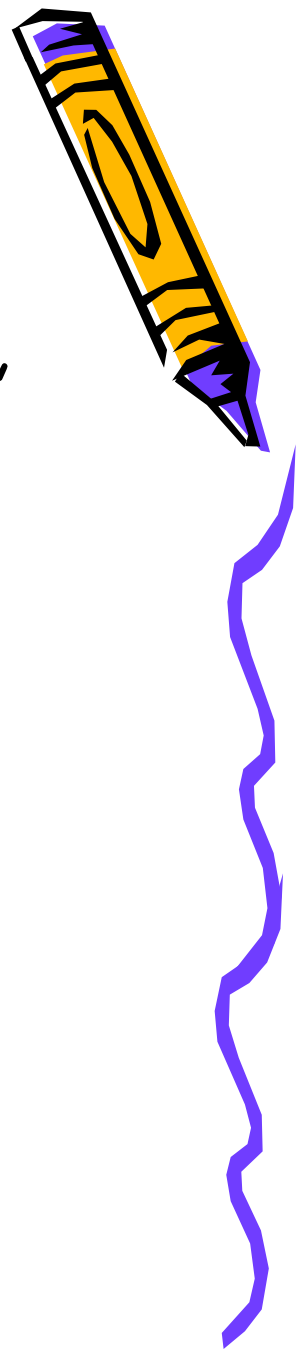
2. It teaches appropriate verbal and physical behavior, making it especially useful for teaching cultural behaviors.

3. It is easy to recall because it has multiple meaning reinforcers:

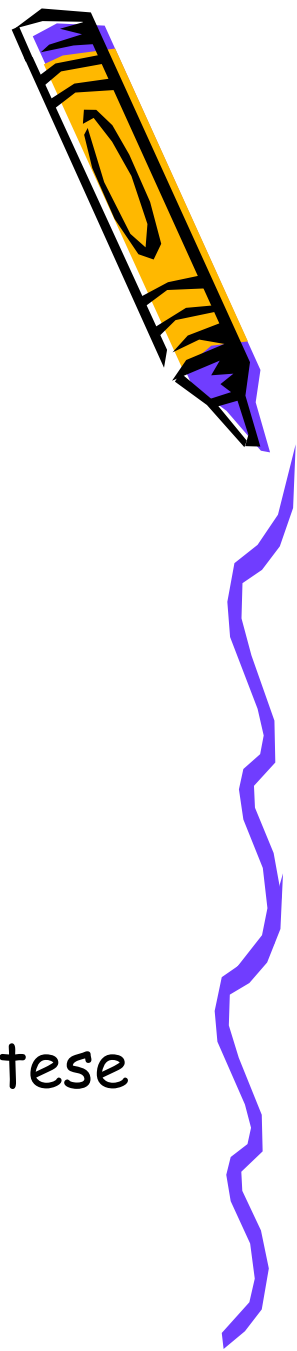
- Physical actions
- Visuals and props

Logical sequence

- Appeal to several senses
- Beginning, middle, and end



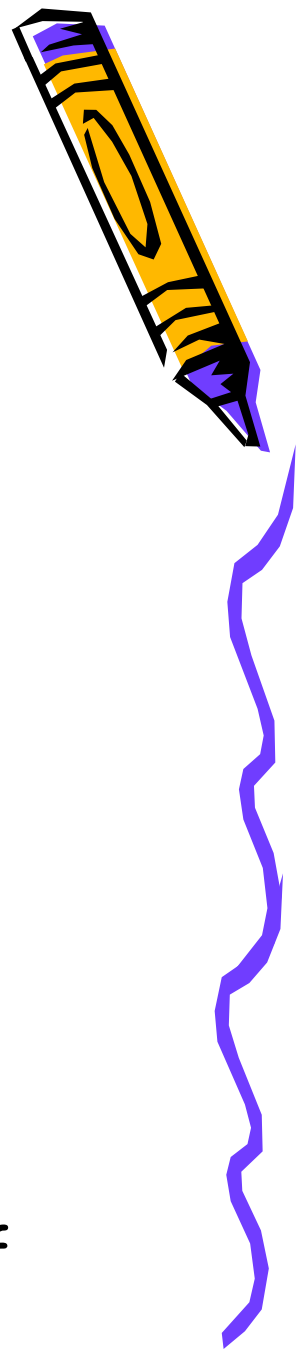
The Natural Approach



- Goal is to develop immediate communicative competency.
 - Lots of time spent on listening and speaking
 - Ss can respond in native language
 - Comprehensible input imperative
 - Visuals, gestures, demonstrations, parentese
 - Yes/no, either/or and short answers
 - TPR



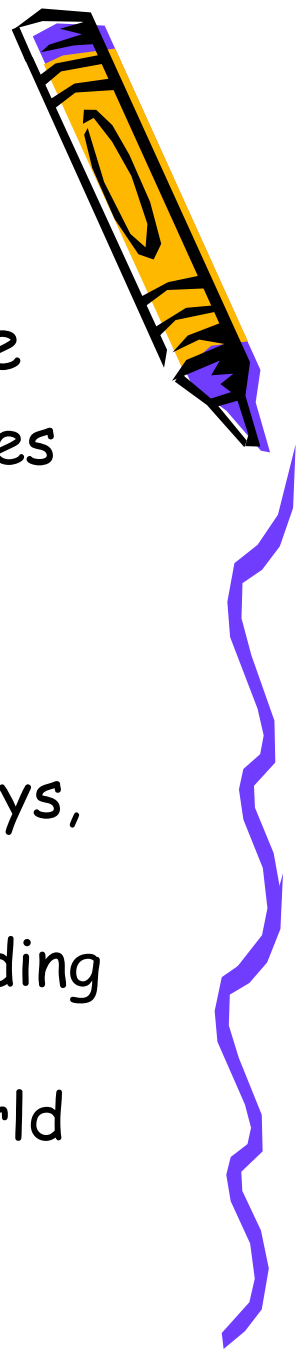
The Communicative Approach



- Based on
 1. The communication principle:
 - Activities that involve communication promote the acquisition of language.
 2. The task-principle:
 - Activities that engage students in the completion of real-world tasks promote language acquisition.
 3. The meaningfulness principle:
 - Learners are engaged in activities that promote authentic and meaningful use of language.



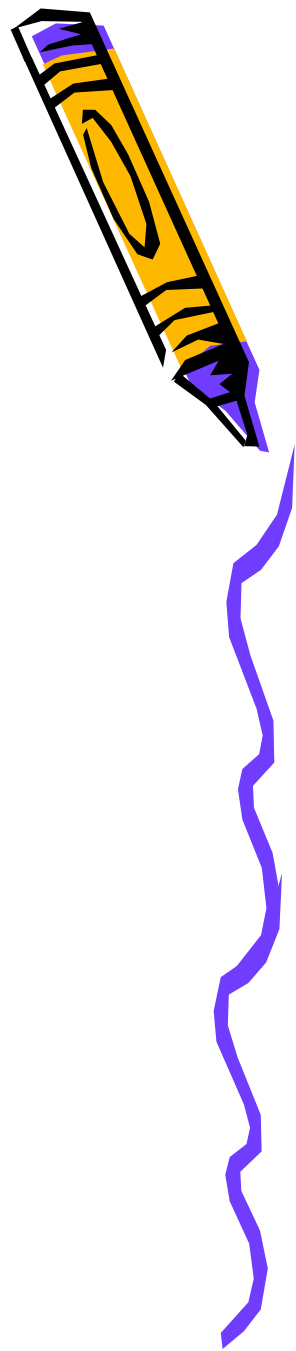
The Communicative Approach



- Learning by doing in meaningful practice
 - language arts (or language analysis) activities
 - language-for-a-purpose (content-based and immersion) activities,
 - personalized language use,
 - theatre arts (including simulations, role-plays, and social interaction games), and
 - language use "beyond the classroom" (including planning activities that take the learners outside the classroom to engage in real-world encounters)



The Communicative Approach



- Cooperative Learning Groups
 - Language is fostered by input that is
 - Comprehensible
 - Developmentally appropriate
 - Redundant
 - Accurate



Your Turn

- Which method or approach would you like to try as a learner? Why?
- Which method or approach would you like to try as a teacher? Why?

